

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A mucosa excising device using an endoscope comprising:
a substantially cylindrical cap ~~having including a cylindrical wall, and including a~~ holding mechanism which holds [[an]] a distal end portion of a snare wire in a loop form, in an inner portion of the cylindrical wall; and
an attachment portion which attaches the cap to an end portion of [[an]] the endoscope,
wherein the holding mechanism has a plurality of engagement ~~portions pieces and a~~
~~plurality of corresponding portions which hold the distal end portion of the snare wire between~~
~~the engagement piece and the corresponding portion, said plurality of engagement pieces being~~
~~inwardly protruding from the cylindrical wall and being respectively which are provided in the~~
~~vicinity of an end edge of the cap and distanced from each other in a circumferential direction of~~
~~the circular end portion, and each engagement portion has an engagement piece and a~~
~~corresponding portion which hold the snare wire 22 therebetween.~~
2. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 1, wherein each of the engagement ~~piece pieces and each of~~ the corresponding ~~portion~~
portions elastically hold the distal end portion of the snare wire therebetween.
3. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the ~~cap has a cylindrical wall having an end portion constituting the circular end portion and cylindrical wall has an inner flange provided so as to inwardly protrude protruding from the end portion of the cylindrical wall, and each of the engagement pieces [is]~~
~~are formed in the inner flange, each of the engagement pieces being so as to be sectioned from~~
the corresponding portion by a pair of ~~vertical~~ notches which are distanced ~~at the circular end portion~~
~~in the circumferential direction and formed extended from an inner edge of the inner~~

flange at an angle with the circumferential direction.

4. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 3, wherein said each pair of the vertical notches are formed so as to extend from the end to the cylindrical wall through the inner flange the base end of the circular end portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 3, wherein the inner flange has a plurality of lateral notches extending in the circumferential direction, and said each pair of vertical notches extend toward the cylindrical wall from both ends of each lateral notch.

6. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 3, wherein the circular end portion has a plurality of lateral notches extending in the circumferential direction between the inner flange and the cylindrical wall, and said each pair of vertical notches extend toward the cylindrical wall from both ends of each lateral notch.

7. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 1, wherein each of the engagement piece can pieces is movable to swivel to a side where the circular end portion is positioned with respect to the corresponding portion, and [[it]] the engagement piece holds the snare wire between its outer surface and one surface of the corresponding portion when caused to swivel.

8. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 4, wherein the each of the engagement piece pieces is elastically deformed and caused to swivel, and the snare wire is pressed against the corresponding portion by an elastic return force of the engagement piece.

9. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to

claim 4, wherein the corresponding portion has portions have a flange provided so as to inwardly protrude from the cylindrical wall, the engagement piece has separation portions separated from each other by a notch portion formed in the inner flange, and the snare wire is supported between the flange and the separation portions.

10. (Original) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 1, wherein the engagement pieces and the corresponding portions are alternately arranged in the circumferential direction of the circular end portion.

11. (Currently Amended) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 1, further comprising: a snare sheath into which the snare wire is inserted; and a flexible tube which has an opening on an end side, the opening communicating with the inner side of the ~~[[cap,]] cylindrical wall~~ which is arranged outside the insertion portion of the endoscope when the cap is attached to the endoscope, and is used to insert the snare sheath in which the snare where is inserted therethrough, wherein: ~~and a fixing means fixture~~ for fixing the snare sheath ~~so as to prevent the snare sheath from moving in an axial direction of the snare sheath against the flexible tube,~~ to be capable of being released, ~~the fixture being~~ ~~[[is]]~~ provided in the vicinity of a basic end portion of the flexible tube.

12. (Currently Amended) A mucosa excising device using an endoscope comprising: a substantially cylindrical cap; an attachment portion which attaches the cap to an end portion of ~~[[an]] the endoscope;~~ and a flexible tube ~~whose including a distal end portion having an end opening communicates communicating with [[the]] an inner side of the cap, which is the flexible tube being~~ arranged outside an insertion portion of the endoscope when the cap is attached to the endoscope and used to insert a snare sheath of a high-frequency snare therein, an end portion of a snare wire of the high-frequency snare inserted in the cap through the flexible tube being

expanded and arranged in the cap, wherein a fixing means fixture for fixing the snare sheath of the high-frequency snare to prevent the snare sheath to move in an axial direction of the snare sheath against the flexible tube, so as to be capable of being released is provided to a proximal in the vicinity of the base end portion of the flexible tube.

13. (New) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 3, wherein said plurality of notches include vertical notches extending at a substantially right angle.

14. (New) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 3, wherein said plurality of engagement pieces are arranged in the same interval in the circumferential direction.

15. (New) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 3, wherein each of the engagement pieces and each of the corresponding portions directly contact opposite sides of the end portion of the snare wire to hold the end portion therebetween.

16. (New) The mucosa excising device using an endoscope according to claim 12, wherein the fixture is disposed around the snare sheath to inwardly press an outer peripheral surface of the snare sheath to fix the snare sheath.

17. (New) A mucosa excising device using an endoscope comprising:
a substantially cylindrical cap having a circular end portion including a holding mechanism which directly holds a looped distal end portion of a snare wire; and
an attachment portion which attaches the cap to an end portion of an endoscope,
wherein the holding mechanism has a plurality of engagement portions which are provided along the circular end portion of the cap and distanced from each other in a circumferential direction, and each engagement portion has an engagement piece and a corresponding portion which hold the looped distal end portion of the snare wire in an elastic

manner therebetween so that the looped distal end portion is positioned to be parallel to the circular distal end portion along a circular inner surface of the cylindrical cap.